



What Are the Leading Health Indicators?

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Leading Health Indicators are a small set of Healthy New Jersey 2020 (HNJ2020) objectives selected to communicate high-priority health issues and actions that can be taken to address them. New Jersey's Leading Health Indicators are considered to be a reflection of the state's major public health concerns. The HNJ2020 initiative is a comprehensive set of disease prevention and health promotion objectives for the state to achieve over the next decade.

Identifying the Leading Health Indicators

New Jersey's Leading Health Indicators are the product of an extensive external and internal feedback process. In order to first identify local public health priorities, the New Jersey Department of Health administered the HNJ2020 Leading Health Indicator Poll to stakeholders throughout the State who were invited to attend one of three Healthy New Jersey 2020 Regional Meetings. Over 200 partners participated in the Poll. A refined list of indicators based on the results of the HNJ2020 Leading Health Indicators Poll was presented to the Department's HNJ2020 Advisory Committee in the form of a survey for final determination.

The New Jersey Department of Health considers the following five health indicators to be the leading health issues facing New Jerseyans today. The Leading Health Indicators will be used to facilitate collaboration with public health partners and motivate action to improve health across the state for the remainder of the decade.

The Leading Health Indicators

1. Access to Primary Care

Measurement: Increase the proportion of adults with a personal doctor or health care provider

Baseline (2011): 83.5%

Target (2020): 90.0%

2. Birth Outcomes

Measurement: Reduce the infant death rate

Baseline (2007): 5.1 per 1,000 live births

Target (2020): 4.8 per 1,000 live births

3. Childhood Immunization

Measurement: Increase the percentage of children aged 19 to 35 months who receive the recommended doses of DTaP, polio, MMR, Hib, hepatitis B, varicella and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)

Baseline (2010): 74%

Target (2020): 80%

4. Heart Disease

Measurement: Reduce the death rate due to coronary heart disease

Baseline (2007): 140.1 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted)

Target (2020): 112.1 per 100,000 population (age-adjusted)

5. Obesity

Measurement: Prevent an increase in the proportion of the population that is obese

Baseline:

- Adults (2011; 20 years+): 23.8%

- High school students (2009): 10.3%

Targets:

- Adults (2020): 23.8%

- High school students (2020): 10.3%

1. Access to Primary Care

Measurement: Increase the proportion of adults with a personal doctor or health care provider

	Total Population	Race/Ethnicity			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Baseline (2011)	83.5%	88.8%	81.8%	65.4%	84.1%
Target (2020)	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	80.0%	90.0%

Baseline data source: New Jersey Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (NJBRFS), Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey Department of Health

2. Birth Outcomes

Measurement: Reduce the infant death rate (per 1,000 live births)

	Total Population	Race/Ethnicity			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Baseline (2007)	5.1	3.1	10.9	5.4	2.3
Target (2020)	4.8	1.9	6.0	4.5	2.2

Baseline data source: Matched Infant Death-Birth Certificate Database, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey Department of Health

3. Childhood Immunization

Measurement: Increase the percentage of children aged 19 to 35 months who receive the recommended doses of DTaP, polio, MMR, Hib, hepatitis B, varicella and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV)

Baseline (2010): 74%

Target (2020): 80%

Data by race/ethnicity are not available.

Baseline data source: National Immunization Survey, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

4. Heart Disease

Measurement: Reduce the death rate due to coronary heart disease (age-adjusted per 100,000 population)

	Total Population	Race/Ethnicity			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Baseline (2007)	140.1	144.0	167.3	78.2	66.1
Target (2020)	112.1	115.7	133.8	62.6	52.9

Baseline data source: Death certificate database, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey Department of Health

5. Obesity

Measurement: Prevent an increase in the proportion of the population that is obese

	Total Population	Race/Ethnicity			
		White	Black	Hispanic	Asian
Adult aged 20+: Baseline (2011) & Target (2020)	23.8%	22.4%	32.5%	28.0%	11.0%
HS Student: Baseline (2009*) & Target (2020)	10.3%	8.2%	16.5%	14.4%	N/A

*High School (HS) Student Baseline data by race/ethnicity are from 2007. The number of Asians in the student sample is too small to compute reliable statistics.

Baseline data source (adults): New Jersey Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (NJBRFS), Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey Department of Health. Baseline data source (high school): New Jersey Student Health Survey of High School Students, New Jersey Department of Education.